

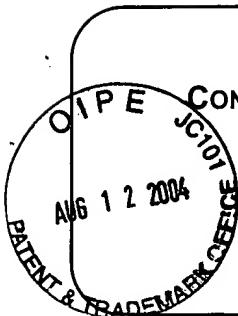
08-16-04

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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RCE
3729
JF
**REQUEST
FOR**
**CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/888,689
<i>Filing Date</i>	June 25, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Phillip E. Byrd
<i>Art Unit</i>	3729
<i>Examiner Name</i>	R. Chang
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	2269-4715US (00-1057.00/US)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114

a. Previously submitted

- Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- Other _____

b. Enclosed

- Amendment/Reply
- Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1469

- RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)
- Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)
- Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$770.00 enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	James R. Duzan	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,393
Signature		Date	August 12, 2004

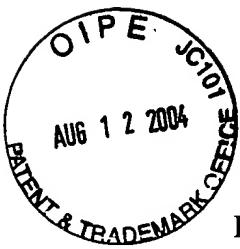
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Express Mail Label Number: EL994831300USDate of Deposit: August 12, 2004Person Making Deposit: Christopher Haughton

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08/17/2004 ANONDAT 00000045 09888689

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Phillip E. Byrd

Serial No.: 09/888,689

Filed: June 25, 2001

For: METHOD TO PREVENT DAMAGE
TO PROBECARD

Confirmation No.: 1027

Examiner: R. Chang

Group Art Unit: 3729

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-4715US
(00-1057.00/US)

NOTICE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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Date of Deposit with USPS: August 12, 2004

Person making Deposit: Christopher Haughton

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is submitted simultaneously with a REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION. Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application on the merits, entry of the amendments as set forth herein is respectfully solicited.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.